

To: Kaplan, Robert[kaplan.robert@epa.gov]
From: Jordan Chariton
Sent: Fri 12/30/2016 4:39:26 PM
Subject: Care to Comment Why EPA Official Said No Lead In East Chicago, Indiana Water?

Good Morning Robert,
My name is Jordan Chariton, and I'm a reporter for the online news program The Young Turks.

In my reporting in East Chicago, Indiana in August, EPA official Brad Benning told me the lead issue was not impacting the water. See below for where you can find his statement in our interview.

3:37-3:59

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O7ET6hSchHI&list=PLqSpk99bLYITfOjUr3SL73G4UgTt5QyPC&index=5>

"It's not similar to Flint, this is not a water pathway issue. They get Lake Michigan water, so there's no groundwater usage, so the water they are getting is not like from a well. They're looking at soil lead and kids playing in the dirt, getting it in their hands, putting their hands in their mouths, ingesting it, and possible inhalation from any dust from that topsoil."

As recent news reports have shown, this isn't true. I also spoke with a family last night in East Chicago who the EPA tested their home, only checking sink water and ground soil. Well, I drew water from the home water heater, which resulted in discolored water. Why is it that the EPA is not testing home water heaters in both East Chicago AND Flint, where in the latter, private tests have already uncovered bacteria.

Jordan

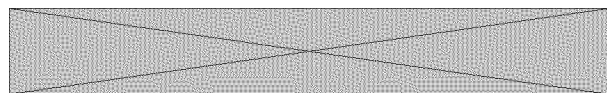
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